

stool for diagnosis is of interest but far from convincing. The suggested therapy through vaccines, for the intestinal toxemia, seems not above question in view of the recent evidence of the effect of diet on intestinal contents.

Although a great deal of material in this volume is carried over from a former generation, which could be safely omitted, the book is a step in advance, especially as seen in some of the diet lists, and contains facts that are of interest and value to all. The impression is that the new material could have been gathered into a much smaller volume thus making it more valuable and decidedly less expensive.

E. J. B.

Advanced Lessons in Practical Physiology for Students and Practitioners of Medicine.

By Russell Burton-Opitz, M. D., Ph. D., Associate Professor of Physiology, Columbia University, New York City. Octavo of 238 pages with 123 illustrations. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company, 1920. Cloth, \$4 net.

This volume is really the laboratory companion to Burton-Opitz's text-book of physiology. The primal requisite of any laboratory guide is clarity, and this particular note characterizes the volume throughout.

Without being verbose and over technical, each step in the preparation of an experiment is concisely set forth, and in such a manner as to develop in the student that mental attitude which is essential to the proper observation of facts, and inductive correlation of these facts once they are obtained.

The experiments given to exemplify the fundamental principles of respiration and circulation are particularly well selected, as is also the treatment of physiology of the nervous system.

In format the book is well done. Throughout the volume blank pages are inserted so that the student may annotate for himself and put down such data as he deems desirable. Altogether, it is one of the best laboratory manuals that we know of and should receive a well-merited recognition.

R. A. Y.

Physiology and Biochemistry in Modern Medicine.

By J. J. R. Macleod. 3d ed. 992 pages. Illustrated. St. Louis: C. V. Mosby Company, 1920.

The appearance of the third edition of Macleod's work confirms the already favorable reception, which has been given the book. The growing tendency of medical schools to teach the laboratory courses, with an under-emphasis of the clinical courses, and the lack of proper laboratory training in the older medical schools, has created a definite call—the answer to which is supplied by the author's work.

This volume bridges the chasm between the purely academic sciences, and the practical problems of medicine as found by the practitioner in his every-day work. The newer methods of diagnosis and treatment are continually demanding from the practitioner a well-rounded scientific balance, and it is only by a thorough knowledge of the fundamental principles of biochemistry and physiology that he can justly apply to himself the term "a scientific practitioner." It is by correlating these two factors that the book finds its justification.

Considerable new matter has been added to the third edition, there has been an extensive revision of the section on neurology by Dr. A. C. Redfield. The chapter on respiration is particularly complete and brings the material up to and inclusive of the newer work of Henderson and Haldane. The chapter dealing with the endocrine organs is particularly well written, the experimental evidence is conservatively epitomized, and the gradual drift toward the clinical application of the knowledge thus gleaned is judiciously pointed out. Typographically and structurally, the volume maintains

the high standards that have always been set by Mosby's books. The illustrations are profuse and helpful, the tables, whenever given, are accurately compiled. All in all, the volume is one of the most useful and valuable that a physician can acquire, and no well-balanced working library can afford to be without it.

R. A. Y.

An Epitome of Hydrotherapy, for Physicians, Architects and Nurses.

By Simon Baruch, M. D., LL. D., Consulting Physician to Knickerbocker and Montefiori Hospitals, Consulting Hydrotherapeutist to Bellevue Hospital, New York City, Formerly Professor of Hydrotherapy, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University. 12mo of 205 pages, illustrated. Philadelphia and London: 1920. W. B. Saunders Company. Cloth, \$2.00 net.

The prominence of the author on hydrotherapeutic matters brings this volume to the fore as the most up-to-date ready reference manual obtainable. The physician who wishes to prescribe hydriatic treatments finds much usable knowledge. The operator who would give these treatments most efficiently will benefit by careful study of the methods therein described. Persons planning or installing hydrotherapeutic equipment will make fewer blunders in first consulting the chapters on the construction and arrangement of this complex and expensive apparatus.

H. L. L.

Correspondence

WE HEARTILY AGREE

January 21, 1921.

To the Editor:

1. We regret the fact that you were unable to accept the article sent to you for publication in the State Journal because, as you inform us, it would take at least a year or more for its publication.

2. It is rather lamentable that those desirous of publishing papers after working on some point of interest that would be of benefit to readers of the Journal should be prevented from doing so because of the extreme limitation of space in the State Journal.

3. Cannot some means be found or devised, such as subscription or the like, to make it possible for the Journal to be at least double its size? This is the only fault that we find with our Journal, which, otherwise, as we know for a fact, is highly considered in the East.

4. Appreciating your attention to this letter and trusting you will take this matter up with the editing committee in order to remedy such a deplorable defect.

Yours very truly,

JAMES EAVES, M.D.

PAUL CAMPICHE, M.D.

560 Sutter Street, San Francisco.

VENEREAL DISEASE CONTROL

Los Angeles, Dec. 21, 1920.

To the Editor:

In your November 1920 issue you have a very excellent article from a scientific technical viewpoint upon, "Status of Venereal Disease Control" (page 399).

There is no question at all about venereal disease being absolutely preventable. Perhaps this question is a good deal like the little doggie braying at the moon; our efforts will be futile, but since we have such excellent prophylactics, why not tell the public about them and use them? After all is said and done, and "Fit to Fight" pictures have been shown and no stone left unturned, the people seem to choose to keep on in the same old way. We can't forget what some of our dear old "Profs." used to say about the sexual instinct being next to the first great law of Nature, that of "self-preservation," and that

sometimes the former even superseded the latter. Whether married or not, everyone is entitled to protection, and they are certainly getting little or none under the way we are instructing now. We protect ourselves against smallpox, diphtheria, typhoid fever, pneumonia, et al.; **why not this?** We know how. It would seem that the Army system would be better, so that the "gonococcic count," would "take the lethal count," for good and all time.

Had it not been for your northern part of the state, showing some real honest-to-goodness, devil's intestinal equipment (vulgarly known as "guts"), and some pure 100 per cent. Americanism we would today be living and laboring under the siren song of the "Quack Quartet"; the majority of the "nuts" seems to be down here. Our little standing made-up joke was, "What stands on eight legs and howls like Balaam's Ass?" **The Quack Quartet.**

The only reason in the wide world that we resurrect the quartet which we have so happily buried, is the fact that if anybody should mention to the "enemy" with what "acme of asininity" we have tackled this venereal question (which is **not** a question, with proper prophylaxis), we are going to have an addition to the "quartet," and they will ring in the venereal measure and then we will have to fight the "Quack Quintet."

In closing, the writer is under the impression that this venereal question is only a matter of education, but in that education, is there any legitimate reason why people are not instructed to take care of themselves. We use prophylaxis in everything else, why not **that?** If we, as medical men, think so much of preventive medicine, and would make sound citizens for the next war, or for peace, let us cease being hypocrites, and recognize the fact that people will **do it**, and tell them how to play safe.

Cordially and sincerely yours,

FRANK A. WOODWARD, M. D.

2488½ W. Pico, Los Angeles, U. S. A.

County Societies

ALAMEDA COUNTY ITEMS

The regular monthly meeting of the Alameda County Society was held at the Health Center Monday evening, December 20th. This was the annual election of officers, and the following were elected to office: President, Dr. Alvin Powell; Vice-President, Dr. Elmer Brinkerhoff; Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. Pauline Nusbaumer.

Upon retiring from the office of president, an interesting address was made by Dr. Clarence Page.

Dr. Dudley Smith, president of the League for the Conservation of Public Health, in token of their high esteem for him personally, and as a mark of their appreciation of his noble efforts for the advancement of public health, was presented with a gold watch bearing an appropriate inscription. Although taken by surprise, Dr. Smith, in his usual happy way, rose to the occasion and again impressed upon his conferees the genuine pleasure he had taken in his past year's work and fired his listeners with new zeal for service that seeks the advancement of the public good.

An interesting scientific program was presented by the Program Committee, consisting of Drs. C. W. Page, Alvin Powell and Pauline Nusbaumer. A paper, "Experimental Studies on the Mechanism of Gall Bladder Infection," was read by Dr. Karl Meyer, professor of Graphical Medicine, University of California. This proved to be one of the most highly instructive and thoroughly scientific papers read before the Society in a long time, and was

received and discussed with the keenest appreciation.

On December 6th, the regular monthly meeting of the staff of Samuel Merritt Hospital was held at the hospital. A valuable paper, "The X-Ray Aspect of Bone Disease," was read by Dr. Lloyd Bryan, of San Francisco. Of an intensely interesting character, this paper was ably discussed by Drs. Siefert and George Rothganger.

Dr. Siefert also reported, in some detail, a somewhat unique case of foreign body in the eye, illustrated by excellent X-Ray plates.

The scientific meeting was followed by refreshments and a social hour of goodfellowship.

On December 10th, the regular monthly meeting of the Visiting and Resident Staffs of the Alameda County Hospital was held at the Health Center. The past month's activities at the hospital were discussed and the routine subjected to a critical analysis. Due to the consistent efforts of the staff in conjunction with Dr. Broderick, the hospital records and other essentials have been brought into conformity with the standards required by the American College of Surgeons.

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

The annual meeting of the Contra Costa County Society was held in Richmond Wednesday evening, December 29, 1920. A large number of members and visitors were in attendance.

The annual report of the Secretary-Treasurer was read and accepted.

The incumbent officers, President G. M. O'Malley, Vice-President M. L. Fernandez, Secretary-Treasurer C. T. Wetmore, were re-elected for the ensuing year.

The speaker of the evening was Dr. Max Rothschild who imparted to the society some exceedingly interesting information which he had acquired in his recent studies abroad with Moch and Denycke in the treatment of tuberculosis with partial antigens. The subject of immunity was reviewed and an interesting account of how the partigens are manufactured, their clinical use in determining the degree of immunity of an individual and finally by lantern slides illustrating the results of treatment in several different kinds of cases. A general discussion followed.

Before adjourning a luncheon was served.

FRESNO COUNTY

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, J. R. Walker; First Vice-President, J. D. Morgan; Second Vice-President, Carl Matthewson; Secretary, A. D. Ellsworth; Assistant Secretary, G. L. Long; Treasurer, Union National Bank. To the Board of Governors (including holdovers)—Drs. Willson, Trowbridge, McConnell, Cooley, Miller. Delegates to the State Society meeting (including one holdover)—Drs. Rosson, Craycroft, Ransome, Schottstaedt, Cross, J. R. Walker. Alternates—Drs. Anderson, Hare, Collins, Luckie, Willson and Madden. Dr. G. L. Long was appointed associate editor. Routine business was transacted.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Los Angeles County Medical Association Meeting

The regular scientific meeting of the Society took place December 2, 1920, at 8 p. m. in the Friday Morning Club House.

Dr. Rae Smith called the meeting to order.

Dr. Thomas C. Myers moved the adoption of resolutions anent the amendments to the by-laws, which would prevent members of the panel of the State Insurance Fund from being members of the Los Angeles County Medical Society. The resolutions were overwhelmingly defeated. Hon. John P. Carter, collector of internal revenue for this